

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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October 29, 2009

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

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To:

Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2010 Appropriations

On October 29, 2009, the House approved the conference report to the FFY 2010 Interior-Environment appropriations bill (H.R. 2996). Included in the bill is a second Continuing Resolution (CR), which through December 18, 2009 would temporarily fund Federal activities that have not already been funded through an enacted FFY 2010 appropriations bill. The President is expected to sign H.R. 2996 after it is cleared by the Senate. Since FFY 2010 began on October 1, 2009, most Federal activities have been temporarily funded under a CR, which will expire on October 31, 2009. To date, only four of the 12 FFY 2010 appropriations bills have been enacted, including the Homeland Security and Energy and Water Development appropriations bills, which fund programs of County interest.

Of the remaining FFY 2010 appropriations bills, which include funding for County programs, the Transportation-Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill is in Conference Committee, while the Commerce-Justice-Science and Labor-Health and Human Services-Education appropriations bills are awaiting Senate floor action. The Congressional leadership has reiterated its desire to enact all 12 appropriations bills. However, it is possible that appropriations bills not enacted by the time the second CR expires in December could be consolidated into a single omnibus appropriations bill.

Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Extension (S. 1694)

On October 28, 2009, the House cleared S. 1694, legislation which would extend the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program, sending it to the President for his signature. The Senate previously passed the County-supported bill on October 14, 2009. Representative Harman sponsored H.R. 3633, the House companion bill to S. 1694.

The Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act, enacted in 2006 as part of a broader budget reconciliation bill, established the one-time \$1 billion PSIC Grant to assist public safety agencies in the acquisition, deployment, and training of interoperable communications systems to enhance interoperable communications. The Congressional Budget Office recently reported that only roughly \$225 million in PSIC funds had been expended as of September 30, 2009.

S. 1694 extends the PSIC Grant period of performance during which PSIC funds can be obligated and expended by state and local governments for one year beyond the current deadline of September 30, 2010, with an option for an extension of an additional year on a case-by-case basis, subject to Federal approval. In addition, the bill extends the deadline for the expenditure of PSIC funds to September 30, 2012. Without the extension, the Los Angeles County area may not be able to obligate and expend its entire \$22.3 million PSIC allocation before the current deadline. This is because our area's PSIC grant has been allocated for use in establishing the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System, which will take time to develop and implement.

Ryan White CARE Act Reauthorization (S. 1793)

Last week, Congress cleared S. 1793, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009, which would reauthorize Ryan White HIV/AIDS programs through Federal Fiscal Year 2013, sending the bill to the President for his signature. The bill increases the authorization level for all Ryan White programs by five percent a year over the next four years. It makes relatively few programmatic changes because there was widespread consensus that major changes were not needed.

The bill's provisions of County interest include:

It retains protections against significant formula funding losses for state and local
governments in states, such as California, which must make a transition from
code-based HIV reporting systems to a name-based system. Beginning in
FFY 2013, all states will be required to report cases using a name-based system,
and code-based protections against funding losses will be eliminated; and

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> Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) funding will be allocated on a formula rather than competitive basis with the MAI funding cycle synchronized with the funding cycle for Part A Emergency Relief, which will reduce administrative burdens.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MT:sb

c: All Department Heads Legislative Strategist